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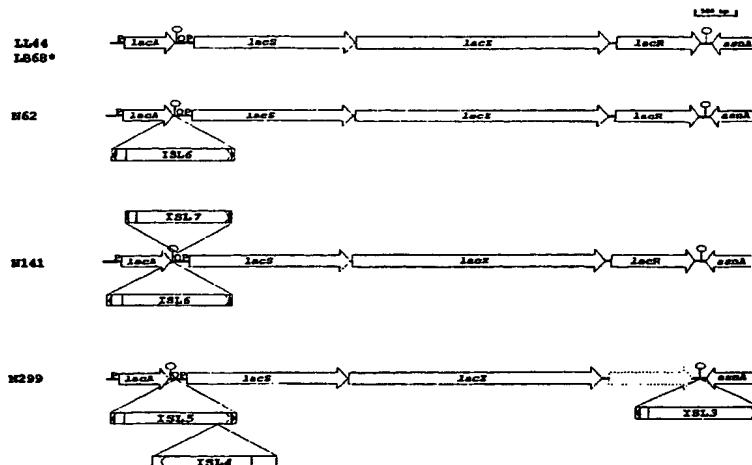
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(54) Title: THE LACTOSE OPERON OF LACTOBACILLUS DELBRUECKII AND ITS USE FOR CONTROLLING GENE TRANSCRIPTION AND/OR EXPRESSION IN BACTERIAL CELLS



Physical map of the lactose operon of the different *L. delbrueckii* studied. Open arrows are for the *lac* operon genes and dashed arrow is for inactivated *lacZ*. Boxes are for the different IS-elements, where the arrows heads are for the inverted repeats. * same sequence as LL43 except an insertion in the 5' end of the *lacZ* gene.

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a DNA sequence suitable for the controlled transcription and/or expression of a variety of different genes in bacteria, preferably gram positive bacteria. In particular the present invention pertains to a DNA sequence comprising the promoter and the gene coding for the lac repressor of the lac operon of *Lactobacillus delbrueckii* with a DNA sequence coding for a gene product of interest being arranged inbetween.